

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1- 299 are pending in the application. No new issues have been added.

The allowability of claims 1-132, 134, 137-147, 149, 152-186, 189-191 and 198-299 is acknowledged with appreciation.

No claims have been amended to overcome prior art.

The Applicant's counsel thanks Examiner Kalafut for the courtesy extended during the telephone interview of October 4, 1999. The above claim amendments and following arguments are commensurate with the discussions during the interview.

The rejection of claims 133, 135, 136, 148, 150, 151, 187, 188 and 192-197 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, at paragraph No. 1 in the Office Action, is obviated in part by the amendments shown above. The part of the rejection regarding use of the term "at least one other element" is respectfully traversed. The Applicant respectfully submits that the term "at least one other element" includes one element as well as more than one element bound together (i.e. a compound). Thus, dependent claims 133, 135, 136, 148, 150, 151, and 193-197 are proper and fully comply with Section 112, second paragraph. Accordingly, withdrawal of the Section 112, second paragraph, rejection is respectfully requested.

The rejection of claims 192-197 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, at paragraph No. 2 in the Office Action, is obviated by the amendment to claim 192 to recite an "increased binding energy hydrogen species" as shown above. Accordingly, withdrawal of the Section 112, first paragraph, rejection is respectfully requested.

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Appln. No.: 09/009,294
Page 3

In view of all of the rejections of record having been addressed, it is sincerely believed that the subject application is in condition for allowance and Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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